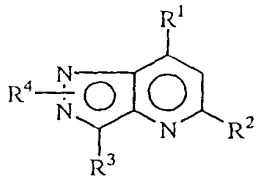
ABSTRACT

CRF ANTAGONISTIC PYRAZOLO[4,3-B]PYRIDINES

This invention concerns compounds of formula



(I),

including the stereoisomers and the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt forms thereof, wherein R^1 is C_{1-6}alkyl, NR^5R^6, OR^6 or SR^6; R^2 is C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, or C_{1-6}alkylthio; R^3 is Ar^1 or Het^1; R^4 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl; R^5 is hydrogen, C_{1-8}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6}cycloalkyl)methyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{3-6}alkenyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino-C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl; R^6 is C_{1-8}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6}cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar^2C_{1-6}alkyl, Ar^2oxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}alkenyl, thienylmethyl, furanylmethyl, tetrahydrofuranylmethyl, C_{1-6}alkylthioC_{1-6}alkyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, or C_{1-6}alkylcarbonylC_{1-6}alkyl; or R^5 and R^6 taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached may form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, morpholinyl, or thiomorpholinyl group, optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents each independently selected from C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl; and and Ar^1 and Ar^2 are each optionally substituted phenyl; and Het^1 is optionally substituted pyridinyl; having CRF receptor antagonistic properties; pharmaceutical compositions containing such compounds as active ingredients; methods of treating disorders related to hypersecretion of CRF such as depression, anxiety, substance abuse, by administering an effective amount of a compound of formula (I).